REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's further Office Action of March 22, 2007 issued with respect to the present RCE application, the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment to the claims and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendments

In the Amendments:

independent claim 1 is amended to clarify that the scanner scans a surface of the document on which the document content, first coded data and user input are marked, that the detector detects the first coded data and user input as the scanner scans the surface of the document so as to access the digital version and determine the user request, and that the printer prints the copies in accordance with the user request so as to contain document content and the second coded data. Support for this amendment can be found at page 18, line 25-page 22, line 13 of the present specification; and

dependent claims 2-9 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not add new matter to the present application.

Regarding 35 USC 112, second paragraph Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of the claimed invention is clearly defined by the above-described amendments to independent claim 1.

In particular, it is clarified that the scanner scans a surface of the document on which the document content, first coded data and user input are marked, and therefore the relative timing of when the document content, first coded data and user input are scanned is defined.

Further, it is clarified that the detector detects the first coded data and user input, and therefore the relative timing of when the first coded data and user input are detected is defined.

Furthermore, it is clarified that the printer prints the copies in accordance with the user request so as to contain document content and the second coded data, and therefore what is incorporated in the printed copy is defined.

Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2-9 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by any one or more of previously cited Mori, Lopresti and Dymetman, for at least the following reasons.

As discussed above, amended independent claim 1 makes it clear that:

each of the document content, first coded data and user input are marked on the surface of the document, and that the scanner scans these markings;

both the first coded data and user input are the detected by the detector as the scanner scans the document surface, which enables the digital version of the document to be accessed and the user request defined by the user input to be determined; and

the printer prints the copies in accordance with the user request so as to contain document content and the second coded data (see page 18, line 25-page 22, line 13 of the present specification).

On the other hand, the "user input" of Mori contended by the Examiner is merely user instructions input through the input section 14 of the external operation unit (see col. 8, lines 25-37), not user input marked on a surface of a document which is scanned by a scanner. Thus, Mori does not teach or suggest scanning, or detecting, user input markings on the document itself so as to print a copy of a digital version of the document in accordance with a user request defined by the user input markings.

Further, the "user request" of Lopresti contended by the Examiner is merely the arrangement of allowing a user to select the copy and output mode via a display panel (see col. 5, lines 46-52), not detecting a user request defined by user input marked on a surface of a document which is scanned by a scanner. Therefore, there is no combination of Mori and Lopresti which would lead one of ordinary skill in the art to scan and detecting user input markings on the document itself so as to print a copy of a digital version of the document in accordance with a user request defined by the user input markings

Furthermore, Dymetman does not make up for these deficiencies in Mori and Lopresti, because the capturing of user interactions on the marking medium disclosed by Dymetman is only via use of the pointer, which does not teach or suggest determining user requests for document copy types by a scanner of a copier (see col. 9, lines 1-23).

Specification

The Applicant has amended pages 1 and 2 of the specification by deleting the paragraphs entitled "Co-pending applications" and replaced them with new updated paragraphs. The US application numbers have merely been replaced by their corresponding US grant numbers, where applicable. The Applicant submits that these amendments introduce no new matter.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

Applicants:

_____
Kia Silverbrook
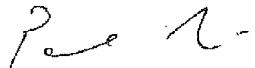
_____
Paul Lapstun

C/o: Silverbrook Research Pty Ltd
              393 Darling Street
              Balmain NSW 2041, Australia

Email: kia.silverbrook@silverbrookresearch.com

Telephone: +612 9818 6633

Facsimile: +61 2 9555 7762